

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-02 EUR-12 ACDA-10 SS-15 NSC-05
 INR-07 CIAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 INRE-00 /053 W
 -----182224Z 069865 /63
O 182120Z MAY 77 ZFF-4
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 SECTO 4114

DEPT FOR S/PRS; PLEASE PASS WHITEHOUSE FOR
POWELL AND BRZEZINSKI

HERE IS THE TEXT OF BRIEFING GIVEN BY DEPT SPOKESMAN
HODDING CARTER, III.

QUOTE:

GOOD AFTERNOON. THE TWO SIDES MET THIS AFTERNOON FOR TWO HOURS
AND 20 MINUTES. THE DISCUSSION WAS ON SALT ONLY. THEY HAD A
FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT COVERING DETAIL VARIOUS IM-
PORTANT POINTS. BOTH SIDES INTEND TO CONSIDER THE VIEWS OF THE
OTHER AND RESUME TALKING AGAIN TOMORROW AT 11:00 A.M. AT THE SOVIET
MISSION.

THE DECISION WAS TAKEN THAT ALL DISCUSSIONS ON SALT WILL BE HELD
AT THE SOVIET MISSION; ALL DISCUSSIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST WILL
BE HELD BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES HERE IN THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL
ON THE 18TH FLOOR. THAT FOLLOWS THEREFORE THAT IF THEY ARE AT THE
SOVIET MISSION THEY ARE TALKING ABOUT SALT. THEY WILL RESUME
TOMORROW MORNING TO EXPLORE THE VARIOUS IDEAS IN GREATER DETAIL.
THERE IS NO PROJECTION AT THIS POINT ON HOW LONG THE NEGOTIATIONS
WILL GO ON. THE ATMOSPHERE CAN BE CHARACTERIZED AS BUSINESSLIKE.
THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK WILL BE DISCUSSIONS FROM ROUGHLY 11:00
TO 1:30 OR 2:00, FOLLOWED BY DISCUSSIONS AGAIN IN THE AFTERNOON
FROM ROUGHLY 4:00 O'CLOCK UNTIL 6:00 OR 6:30. SOMEWHAT SIMILAR
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TO THOSE THAT WERE HELD IN MOSCOW IN THE FIRST ROUND OF THIS
CURRENT PHASE OF SALT DISCUSSIONS. BOTH SIDES HAVE AGREED THAT
THEY WILL NOT GO MUCH FURTHER IN THEIR
BRIEFINGS THAN THIS SEMI-JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT. QUESTIONS?

Q. ARE THEY WORKING ON A DOCUMENT OF ANY KIND?

A. THE DO NOT HAVE A DOCUMENT IN HAND THAT THEY ARE WORKING ON.

Q. HODDING WOULD YOU SAY THAT THEY DIDN'T MENTION THE ISRAELI ELECTION?

A. I'M SIMPLY TELLING YOU THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WHICH WERE HELD THIS AFTERNOON WERE ON SALT AND THAT THEY HAVE AGREED THAT WHEN THE MIDDLE EAST IS GOING TO BE DISCUSSED IT WILL BE DISCUSSED HERE.

Q. HODDING WOULD YOU SAY THEY TEND TO DISCUSS THE (INAUDIBLE) VIEWS OF THE OTHER SIDE. ARE THERE ANY NEW VIEWS?

A. I REALLY CAN'T GO BEYOND WHAT I'M SAYING HERE, THAT THEY DID HAVE A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

Q. (INAUDIBLE)

A. THAT'S IN QUOTATION MARKS BARRY?

Q. (INAUDIBLE)

A. YES. I THINK AT THIS POINT THE ACCURATE DESCRIPTION IS THAT THEY ARE STILL EXCHANGING VIEWS. I DON'T HAVE THE WORD SYNTHESIZE OR BLEND IN FRONT OF ME.

Q. CAN YOU CHARACTERIZE (INAUDIBLE)

A. YES, I THINK BUSINESSLIKE IS AN ACCURATE DESCRIPTION OF IT. IT SAVES YOU THE PROBLEM OF TRYING TO INTERPRET CONSTRUCTIVE OR FRANK OR CANDID.

Q. IS BUSINESSLIKE AN AMERICAN CHARACTERIATION OF BOTH SIDES?

A. I DON'T HAVE THE TASS STATEMENT IN FRONT OF ME. I THINK BUSINESS-LIKE IS OUR CHARACTERIZATION.

Q. IS THE SECRETARY GOING TO BE IN TOUCH WITH PRESIDENT CARTER ON WHEN THEY MEET AGAIN?

A. AS BEFORE THERE IS A FORM OF COMMUNICATION EVERY DAY FROM THE SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT.

Q. DOES HE TALK TO HIM PERSONALLY?

A. I DO NOT KNOW.

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Q. (INAUDIBLE)

A. I THINK THAT BUSINESSLIKE IS A FRAMEWORK THAT EXISTS IN MOSCOW AND HERE. I DON'T THINK I CAN GO ANY FURTHER THAN THAT.

Q. WHO'S IN THE SOVIET DELEGATION?

A. I'LL GET YOU A COMPLETE LISTING ON THE NEGOTIATORS ON BOTH SIDES AND I'LL HAVE IT POSTED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE; I'D SAY WITHIN TEN MINUTES AFTER THIS MEETING IS OVER. THERE IS NO NOTABLE CHANGE FROM THE ONE IN MOSCOW. I'M SIMPLY NOT SURE WHO WAS IN THE MEETING FOR

THE ENTIRE TIME THIS AFTERNOON BECAUSE I WASN'T THERE.

Q. DID THEY DISCUSS WEAPONS OR CONCEPTS OR BOTH?

A. THEY ARE EXCHANGING VIEWS ON THE FULL RANGE OF SUBJECTS COVERED IN THE PREVIOUS SALT NEGOTIATIONS.

Q. ARE THEY BASING THEIR DISCUSSIONS ON THE TWO AMERICAN PROPOSALS AND THE ONE SOVIET PROPOSAL?

A. I BELIEVE THAT THE FRAMEWORK FOR DISCUSSIONS SO FAR HAS TO DO WITH THE PROPOSALS WHICH HAVE BEEN PUT FORWARD BY BOTH SIDES.

Q. DOES THE TIMETABLE FOR TOMORROW PERMIT A MOVE UP HERE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST DISCUSSION OR WILL IT BE SALT ALL DAY?

A. THAT SIMPLY HAS TO AWAIT TOMORROW MORNING'S ROUND. I ALL I CAN TELL YOU FOR SURE IS THAT TOMORROW MORNING'S ROUND IS GOING TO BE ON SALT.

Q. MR. CARTER, WHAT IS THE REASON FOR THE PROCEDURAL ARRANGMENTS ON SALT (INAUDIBLE)

A. WHY HAVE IT FIRST AND SECOND?

Q. WHY NOT ALL THE TALKS THERE (INAUDIBLE)

A. THAT WAS A HIGH-LEVEL POLICY DECISION REACHED AFTER SOME NEGOTIATION I SUPPOSE. I REALLY WASN'T IN THE MIDDLE OF THAT ONE.

Q. MR. CARTER, ANOTHER HIGH-LEVEL QUESTION. IS THERE SOME REASON WHY THE TWO SIDES HAVEN'T HAD ANY MEALS TOGETHER OR (INAUDIBLE)?

A. I'M NOT SURE BUT THAT THERE WON'T BE ANY EXCHANGE OF MEALS. AT THIS POINT I CAN TELL YOU TONIGHT, I CAN TELL YOU THAT TONIGHT THAT THE SECRETARY'S EATING HERE IN THE INTERCONTINENTAL IN A NON-WORKING DINNER ON THE 18TH FLOOR.

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-----182222Z 070086 /63

O 182120Z MAY 77 ZDF-4
FM USDEL SECRETARY GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 2 OF 2 SECTO 4114

DEPARTMENT FOR S/PRS; PLEASE PASS WHITEHOUSE
FOR POWELL AND BRZEZINSKI

Q. MR. CARTER, A MECHANICAL MATTER, APPARENTLY THEY BROKE UP AROUND 5:20 OR 5:30?

A. THAT'S WHAT I HAVE BEEN GIVEN.

Q. IN THE FUTURE COULD YOU LET US KNOW WHEN THEY BREAK UP?

A. YES. I THINK THAT 2 HOURS AND 20 MINUTES IS THE EXACT TIME. YOU KNOW WHEN WE LEFT THAT BUILDING, SO.

Q. NO, BUT WHAT I'M SAYING IS, COULD YOU GET THE WORD UP HERE?

A. SURE. I SEEM JIM FOR THE -- YES I WILL. INCIDENTALLY, GENTLEMEN, AND LADIES THE FOREIGN MINISTER AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE WENT LOOKING FOR YOU AFTER THE SESSION. THEY WALKED FROM THE SOVIET MISSION DOWN TO THE STREET AND WHILE THEY MAY NOT HAVE BEEN WHISTLING FOR YOU THEY CERTAINLY WERE ACTIVELY SEEKING YOU. SO, YOU MIGHT WANT TO THINK ABOUT THAT IN FUTURE

TIMES. BECAUSE THEY HAVE AN ABSOLUTE DESIRE TO SEE YOU AND I HEARD MR. GROMYKO PARTICULARLY ASK FOR YOU BARRY BECAUSE HE WANTED TO PRACTICE HIS ENGLISH.

Q. WAS THERE ANYTHING THEY WANTED TO TELL US PARTICULARLY?

A. NO, I THINK, I THINK THEY PROBABLY ... I THINK THAT IF THEY WERE GOING TO SAY ANYTHING IT WOULD HAVE BEEN ALONG THE LINES OF WHAT I'M SAYING RIGHT HERE, SINCE THEY HAS REACHED AGREEMENT.

Q. DO YOU KNOW IF THE RUSSIANS HAVE A (INAUDIBLE)
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A. THE UNDERSTANDING AS I HAVE IT IS THAT THEY WILL ISSUE A STATEMENT THROUGH TASS AND I'M NOT SURE THAT I HAVE THE EXACT WORDING ON THAT. I DON'T THINK THAT WE HAD A PRECISE, WORD-DOR-WORD RELEASE THAT WE'RE GOING TO PUT OUT. SO YOU MAY FIND SOME VARIATIONS WHICH YOU CAN ALSO PLAY WITH AFTER THEY RELEASE THEIRS.

Q. DO YOU HAVE AN ADMINISTRATION STATEMENT ON THE ISRAELI ELECTION?

A. NO. WE ARE AT THIS POINT STILL IN AN OFFICIAL "NO COMMENT" UP FRONT AND NO COMMENT ON THE BACKGROUND ON THE ISRAELI ELECTION.

Q. DID MR. GROMYKO ASK SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TWO AMERICAN PROPOSALS?

A. MARVIN, I REALLY CAN'T GO ANY FURTHER THAN THIS RIGHT NOW.

Q. IS THE FRAMEWORK OF THE DISCUSSIONS THE TWO AMERICAN PROPOSALS AND THE ONE SOVIET PROPOSAL (INAUDIBLE)?

A. MARVIN, I THINK THAT THEY, I THINK THAT WHAT WHEN I SAID THAT THEY HAD A EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE MATTERS OF SALT THAT THEY REALLY WILL HAVE TO ANSWER IT. I REALLY CAN'T GO BEYOND THAT.

Q. DID THEY MAKE ANY NEW PROPOSALS? ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS?

A. I REALLY CAN'T GO BEYOND WHAT I HAVE HERE. I FRANKLY DO NOT KNOW OF ANY NEW PROPOSALS.

Q. COULD YOU SAY WERE THERE ANY TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN SEMYONOV AND (INAUDIBLE)?

A. I DON'T THINK THAT THAT WAS WITHIN THE CONTEXT TODAY BUT I DON'T WANT TO SAY NO. I WILL FIND OUT, IF YOU WANT TO CHECK WITH ME I'LL HAVE AN ANSWER ON THAT.

Q. HODDING, IN USING PRESIDENT CARTER'S PHRASE, WOULD YOU SAY THE RUSSIANS ARE BARGAINING IN GOOD FAITH?

A. I BELIEVE THAT BOTH SIDES FEEL THAT THEY ARE ENGAGED IN A FULL EFFORT OF NEGOTIATION AND I ASSUME THAT THAT MEANS GOOD FAITH ON BOTH SIDES.

Q. WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE FACT (INAUDIBLE)

A. IT MIGHT BE AN INFERENECE YOU DRAW. I CAN'T SPEAK TO THAT. I JUST SIMPLY CAN'T CHARACTERIZE THIS PROJECTION OF TALKS.

Q. THEY NOW SPEND TWO AND ONE-HALF HOURS A DAY ON SALT. (INAUDIBLE) IN MOSCOW ON SALT? CAN YOU COMPARE THE DISCUSSIONS TODAY WITH
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THE DISCUSSIONS IN MOSCOW, I MEAN?

A. NO. I REALLY CAN'T COMPARE THEM EXCEPT TO SAY THE OBVIOUS. THERE, THERE WAS A PRESENTATION OF, IF NOT PRECISELY UNKNOWN, THEN A FULL PRESENTATION OF POSITION. HERE THOSE FULL PRESENTATIONS HAVE BEEN MADE PREVIOUSLY AND THEREFORE THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS COULD GO INTO MORE DEPTH ON WHAT WAS UNDERSTOOD ABOUT EACH SIDE'S POSITIONS. YES, MARVIN.

Q. SO THERE'S NO MISUNDERSTANDING, MR. GROMYKO WAS ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TWO AMERICAN PROPOSALS THAT WOULD SUGGEST THAT ONE OF THOSE EITHER BE CUT (INAUDIBLE) GOING INTO THAT ISSUE AGAIN AND I WONDER IF (INAUDIBLE)

A. MARVIN, THE ONLY IMPRESSION I REALLY WANT TO LEAVE IS THAT BOTH SIDES HAD A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS AND THAT THEY FELT THAT THIS WAS DONE IN A BUSINESSLIKE MANNER. AND I'M REALLY NOT PREPARED TO GO BEYOND THAT. I WOULD LOVE TO DANCE FURTHER ALONG THIS LINE, BUT THE FACT IS THAT I'M NOT AUTHORIZED TO DO IT AND I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE THT'S OF ANY USE TO YOU.

Q. WILL THE VANCE STATEMENT BE (INAUDIBLE) TOMORROW MORNING (INAUDIBLE)

A. IT IS MY BELIEF THAT THE SOVIET SIDE WENT FIRST.

Q. HODDING WOULD YOU SAY A FULL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS OVER THE PROPOSALS (INAUDIBLE). NOW IN MOSCOW THE EXCHANGES BEGAN, CONSISTED OF (INAUDIBLE) FROM BOTH SIDES. NOW TODAY THE PROPOSALS ARE ON THE TABLE ALREADY. (INAUDIBLE) THAT THE RUSSIANS WOULD BE RESPONDING TO THE AMERICAN PROPOSALS AND THE AMERICANS TO THE RUSSIAN PROPOSALS?

A. WELL, I REALLY JUST AM NOT PREPARED TO GO BEYOND WHAT I'VE SAID AND HOW THEY DISCUSSED IT OR WHAT FORM THE INTERPLAY TOOK I REALLY CAN'T DEAL WITH THIS. THERE IS AN AGREEMENT.

Q. (INAUDIBLE)

A. I WOULD SAY THAT WITHIN THE BROAD LATITUDE OF THE WORD BUSINESSLIKE, IT CERTAINLY FITS AS WELL HERE AS IN MOSCOW.

Q. THE NEXT BRIEFING?

A. ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT. THE NEXT BRIEFING WILL BE HELD FOLLOWING TOMORROW MORNING, I.E., EARLY AFTERNOON TOMORROW, SO, 2:30. END QUOTE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: SOPN, PARM, US, UR, XF, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (GROMYKO, ANDREY ANDREYEVICH), (CARTER, HODDING III)
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
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